

Review of Initial Recommendations of the Miami-Dade County WATF

Miami-Dade County Wetlands Advisory Task Force

December 19, 2011

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Natural Resources Regulation and Restoration Division
Permitting, Environment and Regulatory Affairs**

Recommendation: Propose Code Change to Include a Limited Exemption for Ag

- **For use on projects where the proposed impacts are to 10 acres or less of wetlands**
- **No additional fill may be brought to site except to replace removed trees**
- **Exotic vegetation coverage for area of proposed work is greater than 90%, or currently in Ag**
- **Proposed use must be allowable under CDMP and zoning code**
- **Proposed use must qualify for State Ag wetlands exemption**
- **Proposed use cannot cause secondary impacts to adjacent wetlands**
- **Exemption subject to determination by PERA**

Recommendation: Proposed Code Change for Deferral of Mitigation for Ag

- **Wetland valuation is determined by PERA prior to impacts**
- **Deferral of mitigation is for Ag use only, change in use requires full mitigation**
- **No additional fill may be brought to site except to replace removed trees**
- **Only eligible for areas where exotic vegetation coverage for area of proposed work is greater than 50%**
- **Proposed use must be allowable under CDMP and zoning code**
- **Proposed use must qualify for State Ag wetlands exemption**
- **Proposed use cannot cause secondary impacts to adjacent wetlands**
- **Landowner must proffer a covenant that will define mitigation requirements upon change of land use**

Recommendation: Evaluate the Option of Offering Reduced Mitigation for Ag

- **For proposed agricultural operations that do not qualify for County exemption or deferral options**
- **Proposed use must be allowed under CDMP and zoning code**
- **Proposed use must qualify for State Ag wetlands exemption**
- **Proposed use cannot cause secondary impacts to adjacent wetlands**
- **Option would provide for a payment to a County trust fund in lieu of other mitigation options**
- **Trust fund payment shall only be used for land purchase programs**
- **Per acre cost should be dependent upon the quality of wetlands impacted**

Recommendation: Proposed code change to Add the Definition of Fallowing

- **Would set an appropriate period of time that would apply without active cultivation**
- **Regardless of on-site conditions, property would be considered in active Ag**

Recommendation: Consider One Time Resolution for Unresolved Mulched Hurricane Wilma debris Cases

- **Miami-Dade County should explore options for a one-time resolution of cases where landowners accepted and placed mulched hurricane debris from Hurricane Wilma on their property**

Recommendation: Support County's Efforts to Streamline the Wetlands Permitting Process

- **Providing for additional administrative permit approvals (i.e. less projects needing BCC approval)**
- **Additional permitting exemptions**

Recommendation: Urge the County to Obtain Delegation for State ERP Permitting

- **Miami-Dade County should actively pursue delegation of the State ERP program**
- **Would provide a local office for a one stop permitting process to obtain state and county approvals**